Important Update Regarding Salmonella Pullorum Typhoid Testing For Poultry Exhibitors Prior To Fairs

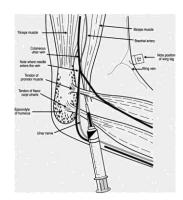
In years past, WSDA field veterinarians conducted Salmonella Pullorum Typhoid (PT) blood testing and Avian Influenza (AI) surveillance at select fairs. However, as of last year, WSDA veterinarians are only collecting swabs for Avian Influenza. As such, private practitioners may be called upon to assist with PT blood collection and testing. The specific requirements are as follows:

IN-STATE-POULTRY EXHIBITORS REQUIREMENTS

All chickens, exotic fowl, and game birds must test negative for Pullorum-Typhoid within 90 days prior to exhibition. Waterfowl, doves, and pigeons are exempt from this rule. Exhibitors are exempt from this rule if they are members of NPIP.

To test poultry for Salmonella Pullorum Typhoid, 1 ml of whole blood can be collected from the brachial vein (medial aspect of the wing) and placed in a small red top Vacutainer® tube. Other veins may be used as well, depending on the comfort level and experience of the practitioner.







- 1. Swab the venipuncture site with 70% alcohol and identify the vein between the bicep and triceps muscles.
- 2. A 3ml syringe with a 25g needle is commonly used to collect blood. In some instances, a TB syringe may be used. Chicken skin is very thin, and the needle should be inserted bevel up almost parallel to the vein. Small hematomas may form in the process, and it is important to apply pressure to the vein after collection to ensure bleeding has stopped.
- 3. When the blood is placed in the red top tube, label it with the sample number, species, owner last name, and date. Lay the tube on its side and allow the serum to form.
- 4. In the meantime, download and fill out the Accession Form For Avian Diagnostics found at https://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/avian. Complete the appropriate information, and select "Blood" under Specimens Submitted and "S. pullorum typhoid" serology under Test Requested. Reason for submission can be "PT testing required for exhibition at the fair" or something similar. Only ONE accession form per owner is necessary, as individual birds can be listed in the history section or on a separate piece of paper.

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- 5. The blood tubes should be individually wrapped in an absorbent material and placed in a Ziploc® bag. It is best to use an insulated shipping container with a small ice pack for overnight mailing (avoid placing the specimen directly on the ice pack to prevent freezing). Please contact the laboratory if you expect specimens to arrive outside of normal business hours Monday through Friday (please avoid this if possible).
- 6. Place the samples and the accession form (in its own Ziploc® bag) into the shipping container and mail to:

Avian Health and Food Safety Laboratory 2607 West Pioneer Puyallup, WA 98371

If there are any further questions, please contact your WSDA regional field veterinarian for assistance. A map and Animal Health Program contacts can be found at:

https://agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/AnimalHealth/ContactUs.aspx